

## STATE OF ARIZONA SCHOOL FACILITIES BOARD

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## School Districts Statewide Benefit from New Construction of School Facilities

Today the Executive Director of the Arizona School Facilities Board, Edward E. Boot, announced that to date the School Facilities Board has funded 176 new construction projects in over 65 districts throughout the state.

These projects range from new and replacement schools to additional space at existing facilities. Many districts, which otherwise would not be able to fund these projects, benefit by this school funding program administered by the School Facilities Board. "Without the SFB, we would have had to go to the voters for another bond to build another school," stated Superintendent Linda Larson of Bullhead City Elementary School District. Superintendent Larson's district lies within Mojave County where a significant portion of population is retirees. "Our voters were generous and understanding in approving two building bonds. I doubt that we would have been successful in passing a third. I am a big fan of the SFB and its systematic approach to providing a more level playing field to all students," Larson further stated.

Throughout the state, school districts, communities, and counties are beginning to see firsthand the results of the Students FIRST legislation and the State's commitment to education. For many, dreams have become realities. On July 19, 2002, when Indian Wells Elementary School was dedicated, Superintendent Tim Foist of Holbrook Unified School District, summed up the feelings of many districts when he stated in his dedication speech, "Today you are seated in the middle of a dream that has been held by so many for so long and at times forgotten. It has been a great honor to hold this dream along with so many that came before..."

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